

Appendix G: Screening Questions for Pleasant Valley Ranger District (RD)

During the route evaluations a comprehensive list of screening questions/considerations were reviewed by the Interdisciplinary (ID) Team for each route evaluated to clearly identify any impacts (potential and realized) and uses. This systematic and comprehensive approach was guided by process software. Specific considerations are organized by topic below.

Table 1. Planning Area Considerations and Specifics

Considerations	Specifics Identified
Critical habitat designations	In or through; proximate (½ mile); other
Historic	Trail(s); area(s); other
Inventoried roadless area	In, through, proximate
Known cultural site(s)	Proximate (within 100 meters); in, through or to; other
Known cultural area/polygon(s)	Proximate (within 100 meters); in, through or to; area of tribal significance; other
National Register of Historic Places	In, through or access to; proximate; other
Recreation opportunity spectrum (ROS)	<i>Primitive</i> - motorized use is not permitted. <i>Semi-Primitive Non-Motorized</i> - motorized use is not permitted. <i>Semi-Primitive Motorized</i> – motorized use is permitted. <i>Roaded Natural</i> – motorized use is permitted. <i>Rural</i> - motorized use is permitted. <i>Urban</i> - motorized use is permitted.
Research natural area	In, through, proximate (proposed)
Riparian wildlife species	Management indicator species (MIS*) - in or through habitat; proximate to habitat (within ¼ mile); other
Visual quality objective (VQO)	Preservation – allows ecological changes only. Retention - management activities should not be evident and the landscape ought to appear natural. Partial Retention - allows management activities to be apparent, but requires that the landscape remain at least predominantly natural. Modification - permits evidence of the management activities to dominate the landscape, but require that the landscape borrow from natural landscape characteristics and tend to be areas infrequently seen. Maximum Modification - allows management activities to dominate the characteristic landscape, although it should appear as a natural occurrence when viewed as background
Proposed wild and scenic rivers	<i>Wild</i> - in, along, crosses, access; <i>Wild</i> - eligible for potential designation; <i>Scenic</i> - in, along, crosses, access; other
Wilderness	In; proximate; boundary route; cherry-stemmed into wilderness; leads to wilderness; illegal incursions; other

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Table 2. Wildlife Species/Habitat Considerations

Wildlife/ Habitat	Specifics Identified
Arizona cliffrose	In or through habitat; proximate to habitat (within ½ mile); other
Caves	Route provides access to
Chiricahua leopard frog (T*)	In or through habitat; proximate to habitat (within ¼ mile); other
Critical habitat designation - Mexican spotted owl (T)	In or through critical habitat or protected activity center (PAC); proximate to critical habitat or PAC (within ½ mile); other
Mexican spotted owl (T)	In or through habitat; proximate to habitat (within ½ mile); other
Bald eagle (T) desert nesting	Proximate to nest (within ½ mile); seasonal closure area; proximate to habitat (within ½°mile); in or through nesting area; proximate to nesting area (within ½ mile); other
Bats	In or through sensitive habitat (e.g., roosting area); Proximate to sensitive habitat (e.g., roosting site) (within ¼ mile)
Common black hawk (MIS*)	In or through habitat; other
Desert sucker	In or through habitat; other
Exemplary plant communities	Other
Game species	In or through habitat; other
Gila monster	In or through habitat; other
Longfin dace	In or through
Lowland leopard frog (S*)	In or through habitat; proximate to habitat (within ½ mile); other
Other wildlife	Bats - low potential; other
Peregrine falcon (S)	In or through habitat; other
Riparian wildlife species	In or through habitat; proximate (½ mile) to habitat; proximate (¼ mile) to habitat; other
Sensitive species Tonto National Forest (Tonto°NF)	Amphibian- known locations/ sightings (within ¼ mile); Bird- known locations/ sightings (within ¼°mile); Fish- known locations/ sightings (within ¼°mile); Mammal- known locations/ sightings (within ¼°mile); Plant- known locations/ sightings (within ¼°mile); Reptile- known locations/ sightings (within ¼°mile); other.
Speckled dace	In or through
Upland wildlife species (MIS)	In or through habitat; in or through movement corridor; in or through high sensitivity areas (e.g., critical range);proximate (¼ mile) to habitat; other
Vegetation	Sonoran Desert – burned / unburned

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Wildlife/ Habitat	Specifics Identified
Vegetation	Riparian; chaparral; conifer, grassland, other

Table 3. Hydrologic and Soil Considerations

Hydrologic and Soil Considerations	Specifics Identified
Ephemeral stream	In; proximate (within 1/8 mile); cross; leads to / ends at / begin at; other
Intermittent stream	In; proximate (within 1/4 mile); cross; leads to / ends at / begin at; other
Perennial stream	In; proximate (1/4 mile); cross; leads to / ends at / begin at; other
Riparian	In, along; proximate (1/4 mile); leads to / ends at / begins at; cross; other
Soils	Areas of highly erosive soils; areas of moderately erosive soils; known erosion scar; sensitive soils; compactable soils (low soil strength); other; area of erosive soils; route subject to erosion concerns
Wash	In; proximate; leads to / ends at / begins at; cross; other

Table 4. Commercial and Administrative Uses

Uses	Specifics Identified
Administrative uses	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Access to developed recreation site • Access to undeveloped recreation site • Administrative gate • Exclosure fence • Vehicle exclosure fence / barriers • Compliance/enforcement monitoring • Monitoring site • Weather station • Well • Wildlife agency monitoring • Wildlife catchment • Wildlife water/guzzler • Other
Range	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ranch management • Tank, trough • Active allotment • Allotment boundary fence line • Cattle guard • Corral • Fence line (not allotment boundary fenceline) • Cabin • Gate • Pipeline • Ranch headquarters • Spring(s) • Sheep driveway • Water catchment • Well • Windmill • Other
Land access	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Private property access • Payson Ranger District • Tribal Nation • Tonto Basin Ranger District • Other

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Uses	Specifics Identified
Mining	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Active mine(s) Gate Inactive mine(s) Mining claim(s) Materials pit Other
Officially recognized in Federal planning document and maintained	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> System route System trail Federal planning document
Timber	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Access to on-going timber sales Access to a future sale Access to a past sale Commercial fuel wood General logging access
Tourism / economics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Route is recognized as contributing to the local economy (tourism) Route is recognized in a local plan (inter-agency planning) Connectivity (inter-regional or intra-regional)
Utilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Communication site/cell site Electrical transmission/powerline Gas pipeline Gate Telephone Septic system Utility corridor Water pipeline Other
Wildland fires	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Access to look-outs Escape route for wildland urban interface Fire suppression Other
Other	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Airport/ airstrip Apiary site Commercial recreation (tours, etc.)

Table 5. Recreational Uses

Recreational Uses	
ATV	Mountain biking
Birding	OHV touring
Camping – developed	Other
Camping – dispersed	Paintball
Camping - organization camp (adjacent to)	Parking area – improved
Commercial recreation permit	Parking area - unimproved
Cultural exploration	Permitted equestrian (proposed)
Equestrian	Permitted motorcycle / ATV
Firewood gathering	Picnic site/area
Fishing	Rockhounding
Geocaching	Shooting

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High clearance / stock 4WD	Special recreation use permit(s)
Hiking	Spelunking
Hunting	Staging area
Interpretive site	Sports utility vehicle (SUV) touring
Interpretive site – historical	Technical 4X4
Modified 4WD	Trailhead(s)
Motorcycle trials	Utility vehicles (UTV)
Motorcycle use	Vistas, sightseeing, photography
Motorized generally	Wilderness / WSR access

Table 6. Miscellaneous Issues/Concerns/Considerations Specified

Other Considerations	Specifics
Dumping	Littering; illegal dumping; other
Caves	Route provides access to; known vandalism to cave; other
High density route polygon	In or through; other
Other	Cactus theft; invasive species / noxious weeds – potential; invasive species / noxious weeds; trespass; conflicts between users
Other Hazards	Mine shaft / adit; (safety) ingress/egress off highway; other
Route proliferation	Proximate to route proliferation; in or through route proliferation area; concern for route proliferation from route; route created due to route proliferation; other
Firewood gathering - illegal	
Route is a concern for public safety	
Route contributes to public safety	
Route contributes to user conflicts	
Route helps minimize user conflicts	

* Special status species definitions are provided in Appendix B - Status Definitions